

MEETING THE PRESS

young writers, if you ever wonder
how much a single interview
can alter the perception of you and your work
for decades to come,
consider the case of lillian ross,
who caught ernest hemingway unwinding in new york
after finishing up a book,
and who was, like so many other young writers,
befriended by him,
and who even apparently liked him,
but who went out and wrote,
as so many young writers have done
exactly what she knew
the new yorkers
wanted her to.

TURKEY DAY INDEED

there should be a companion holiday to thanksgiving,
a chance for the community to come together
and express itself thusly:

"lord, we do not thank you for
this year's

plagues floods famines forestfires
poxes droughts crib-deaths hurricanes
crop failures earthquakes tidal-waves
dust storms hailstorms thunderstorms

and shitstorms

heatwaves cold spells landslides

and influenza epidemics,

not to mention the perennial pains in the ass
exacerbated by

divers tongues
skins of differing hues
concupiscence

and a planet that was constructed
just a bit too small
for the population growth
of which, in your omniscience
(precognition included)

you can not have failed to have been aware."